

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

200 W. Washington, Suite 301
Indianapolis, IN 46204
(317) 233-0696
<http://www.in.gov/legislative>

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 7175

BILL NUMBER: HB 1500

NOTE PREPARED: Jan 3, 2009

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Hunting and Fishing Licenses for Persons with a Disability.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Oxley

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FIRST SPONSOR:

FUNDS AFFECTED: **GENERAL**
 X DEDICATED
 FEDERAL

IMPACT: State

Summary of Legislation: This bill provides that certain persons with a disability may purchase hunting and fishing licenses at a reduced fee.

Effective Date: July 1, 2009.

Explanation of State Expenditures:

Explanation of State Revenues: *Summary:* The state will lose an estimated \$800,000 in revenues that would have been collected from hunting and fishing license fees. These license fees are deposited in the Fish and Wildlife Fund, which funds the operating budgets of the DNR's Division of Fish and Wildlife and the Division of Law Enforcement.

Background: A resident who has a developmental disability or has a disability and meets the qualification for Social Security disability payments is entitled to a reduced fee for a hunting and fishing license. Each year the individual may obtain both a hunting and fishing license by paying a reduced license fee of \$2.75, \$0.75 of which is retained by the selling agent.

The current fee for an annual hunting and fishing license is \$25. Of this amount, \$0.75 is retained by the selling agent, leaving a remainder of \$24.25. Subtracting \$2 from this amount leaves a reduction in revenue of \$22.25 per license sold.

There are an estimated 171,395 beneficiaries from age 18-64 who are in current payment status in the Social

Security Disability Insurance Program. Based on DNR data, an estimated 7% of the population purchased a license to hunt. About 14% of the population fishes. If the total percentage was applied to the eligible population, an estimated 36,000 persons could purchase a license for the reduced fee. The annual revenue loss would equal about \$800,000.

Revenues collected from hunting license fees are deposited in the Fish and Wildlife Fund, which funds the operating budgets of the DNR's Division of Fish and Wildlife and the Division of Law Enforcement.

Social Security Disability Fact Table

Percentage distribution of blind and disabled persons under age 65 receiving federally administered payments and not transferred from prior state programs, by diagnostic group, December 2002.

Diagnostic group	Total	Blind	Disabled
All recipients	100	100	100
Congenital anomalies	1.4	0.5	0.5
Endocrine, nutritional, and metabolic diseases	3.4	0.9	4.1
Infectious and parasitic diseases	1.5	0.2	1.8
Injuries	2.2	0.3	2.6
Mental disorders			
Mental retardation	22.8	2	22.2
Other (Mental Disorders)	34	0.9	33.7
Neoplasms	1.1	0.1	1.1
Diseases of-			
Blood and blood-forming organs	0.6	0	0.4
Circulatory system	3.9	1.7	4.8
Digestive system	0.8	0	0.9
Genitourinary system	0.9	0.4	1.1
Musculoskeletal system and connective tissue	7.8	0.4	9.5
Nervous system and sense organs	8.2	82.2	6.8
Respiratory system	2.3	0.1	2.2
Skin and subcutaneous tissue	0.1	0	0.2
Other	1.8	0.1	0.2
Unknown	7.1	10	7.9

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: DNR.

Local Agencies Affected:

Information Sources: U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, http://library.fws.gov/Pubs/State_overview01.pdf ; DNR; http://www.disabilitybenefits.com/benefits/social_security_disability_list.html.

Fiscal Analyst: Bernadette Bartlett, 317-232-9586.